

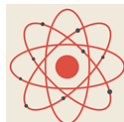


Western Library System Helping libraries serve our communities

May/June 2019

S.T.E.A.M.ing into the Future

Now that we're moved into our new offices, and we've finished our spring cleaning, it's time to S.T.E.A.M. forward with technology and fun! With the Nebraska Library Commissions' Innovation Studios becoming such a huge force within our community libraries, along with the concept of using Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics for guiding inquiry, dialogue and critical thinking with even the youngest patrons, we wanted to provide every library a chance to offer an assortment of sewing, robotics, designing, coding, programming and artistic flair with personalized projects galore. Technological Innovation will ensure that our youngest patrons have access to high-quality learning opportunities. Plus, everyone will just have FUN! Thus... we're introducing our newest traveling S.T.E.A.M. equipment!



Here is your opportunity to put the fun in learning with all the new items the WLS office has added to their list of equipment: Cricut Maker with EasyPress Heat Press, Computerized Sewing and Embroidery Machine (Brother SE 625), American Button Machine, Star Wars littleBits, Evo OzoBot, BlocksRock!, Lego Boost Robotics and Gizmos & Gadgets little-Bits. All of these items will be available for loan starting June 2019.

First, come learn all the fun ways to integrate S.T.E.A.M. into your library programs with our hands-on workshops! So far we have two planned:



Morrill Public Library

May 30th, 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

To register for this fun event in Morrill,
Click Here:

<https://forms.gle/YazhYLQo9mVw2nTJ9>

***Choose your workshop:**



Bridgeport Public Library

June 4th, 10:00 am – 2:30 pm

To register for this fun event in Bridgeport,
Click Here:

<https://forms.gle/w35hdjyXXSTeazM67>

***If you would like to host a workshop in your library, please contact the WLS office!**

"A library outranks any other
one thing a community can do
to benefit its people.

It is a never failing spring
in the desert."

~Andrew Carnegie

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Jan J. Jolliffe

WLS Director

jan.jolliffe@nebraska.gov

Jeri Clapper

Administrative Assistant

wlsasst@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendar

Communication Bootcamp with Pat Wagner

May 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Prairie Winds Community
Center, Bridgeport, NE
<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/2019/02/19/communication-bootcamp/>

WLS Board Meeting

May 14, Riverside Business Plaza
615 S. Beltline Hwy West,
Scottsbluff, NE
Conference Room, 10:00 a.m.

Public Library Accreditation and Community Needs Workshop

May 22. 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lied Scottsbluff Public Library,
Scottsbluff, NE
<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventreg.asp?ProgID=18242>

STEAM & Crafts Equipment Workshops

May 30, Morrill Public Library
<https://forms.gle/YazhYLQo9mVw2nTJ9>
June 4, Bridgeport Public Library
<https://forms.gle/w35hdjyXXSTEazM67>

WLS Annual Meeting

July 23, 2019
<https://forms.gle/aLcN6Z56HftopoE8o9>
Brown Sheep Company, Inc.
Mitchell, NE
Registration 9:30 a.m.
Meeting 10 - 12
Board meeting after Lunch
Earn CE credit

WLS Author Tour: Ben Mikaelson

October 28 - November 1
All five WLS districts



Upcoming NCompass Live

Upcoming NCompass Live events:

- May 1 - [The Golden Sower Award: Nebraska's Children's Choice Literary Award](#)
- May 8 - [Small Libraries Can Run Code Clubs for Kids](#)
- May 15 - [A Conversation with Nebraska's New State Poet, Matt Mason](#)
- May 22 - [Picture Book City: Reorganizing Our Storybooks by Subject](#)
- May 29 - [Let's Get Real About Virtual Reality](#)

NCompass Live is broadcast live, every Wednesday, from 9am - 10am Mountain Time.

For more information, to register for NCompass Live, or to listen to recordings of past events, go to: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/>

Basic Skills for Nebraska Librarians 2019 Schedule

Class Dates	Class	Instructor	Registration Dates
5/13 - 5/24	Intellectual Freedom / Core Values*	Sally Snyder	4/15 - 5/3
6/10 - 6/21	Library Finance	Scott Childers	5/13 - 5/31
7/8 - 7/19	Reference	Christa Porter	6/10 - 6/28
7/29 - 8/9	Library Policy	Sharon Osenga	7/1 - 7/19
8/19 - 8/30	Collection Management*	Denise Harders	7/22 - 8/9
9/9 - 9/20	Programming and Outreach	Christa Porter	8/12 - 8/30

(* Requisite class)

Register on the Nebraska Library Commission [Training and Events Calendar](#).

[Description of Basic Skills courses](#)

[Basic Skills Planner](#)--for program participants to keep track of their progress

For further information, contact [Holli Duggan](#), NLC Continuing Education Coordinator.

Visit the Nebraska Library Commission Website for News and Announcements.



Goodall City Library Events

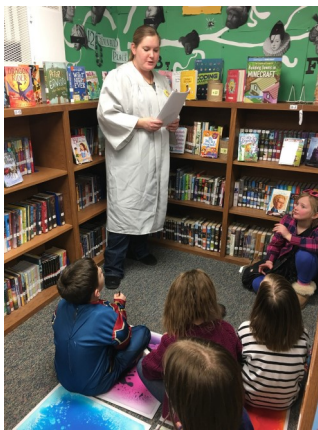


November 17, 2018 was our Winter Wonderland tea party. We each had a hot mug of steeped tea, each a different flavor, along with some yummy homemade snacks. While we enjoyed our tea and biscuits we did a fun winter frozen craft. We had a fascinating challenge of building the biggest igloo with sugar cubes, followed by some facts about tea and the related traditions.



December 15, 2018 was our first ever Pajama Party. We started the morning with hot cocoa and pastries while we wrote to Santa. Once finished with our letters, we had to search the library for our elf, Ralphie. We found him sitting by the mail-box that sends the letters to Santa (every child received a response from Santa). Afterward, we decorated sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles and then finished the morning with a fun scavenger hunt looking for the hidden snowmen.

February 7, 2019 marked the fifth annual Harry Potter Book Night for us. We decorated the library, read from the 5th book (*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*), made quill pens, received our prophecies, had a riveting game of trivia, a ministry of magic scavenger hunt, and tried to catch floating chocolates.



Article and pictures submitted by Chelsea Foust, Youth Services Librarian.



More Fun in Goodall City Library



On March 16, 2019 we hosted our first ever Fancy Nancy party and were joined by a special guest, Maddie the puppy. We took photos in our fancy photo booth, had a Fancy Nancy scavenger hunt, read an amazing book (*Fancy Nancy Skater Extraordinaire*), and had some fancy treats before receiving our certificate of being fancy and our commemorative flower bouquets.



We have an ongoing adult canvas paint class that meets once a month to paint led by librarians Kasia and Chelsea. We have both of the hosts choose what to paint, as well as have patrons vote for the one that they like the best.

Adult Canvas Paint Class



December 15, 2018 was our first ever Pajama Party. We started the morning with hot cocoa and pastries while we wrote to Santa. Once finished with our letters we had to search the library for our elf, Ralphie. When we found him he was sitting by the mailbox that sends the letters to Santa (every child received a response from Santa). Then we decorated sugar cookies with frosting and sprinkles and finished the morning with a fun scavenger hunt looking for the hidden snowmen.

Article and photo submission by Chelsea Foust, Youth Services Librarian, Goodall City Library

Young Nebraskans Win Writing Competition



Nebraska students competed for the twentieth year in the annual *Letters About Literature* competition. They wrote to tell an author about how books can make a difference in a young person's life. Young Nebraska writers who wrote winning letters in the *Letters About Literature* competition received award certificates from **Gov. Pete Ricketts** at a proclamation-signing ceremony celebrating National Library Week, April 7-13, 2019.

Letters About Literature is a national reading and writing promotion program. Nearly 28,000 adolescent and young readers nationwide, in grades four through twelve, participated in this year's *Letters About Literature* program - hundreds of them from Nebraska. The competition encourages young people to read, be inspired, and write back to the author (living or dead) who had an impact on their lives.

This annual contest is sponsored nationally by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, with funding from Dollar General Literacy Foundation. The Center for the Book was established in 1977 as a public-private partnership to use the resources of the Library of Congress to stimulate public interest in books and reading. The Nebraska competition is coordinated and sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book, Nebraska Library Commission, Houchen Bindery Ltd., Humanities Nebraska, and Chapters Bookstore in Seward.

Young Nebraska writers to be honored are:

Winners

Payton Boyer, Alliance, for a letter to M. Ruben

Ruby Cunningham, Omaha, for a letter to Ishmael Beah
Gage Boardman, Valley, writing to Becky Albertalli

Congratulations!

Alternate Winners

Maren Steinke, Lincoln, for a letter to Paul Griffin

Makenna Miller, Elkhorn, for a letter to J.D. Salinger

Kelsee Moffat, Oshkosh, writing to Nicholas Sparks

The students wrote personal letters to authors explaining how his or her work changed their view of themselves or the world. They selected authors from any genre, fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic. Winners were chosen from three competition levels: upper elementary, middle, and secondary school.

The Nebraska winners are honored at a luncheon and receive cash prizes and gift certificates. Their winning letters are placed in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. They will advance to the national competition, with a chance to win a trip to Washington, D.C. for themselves and their parents. For more information about the competition see <http://centerforthebook.nebraska.gov/programs/LAL.html>.

The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state's readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is supported by the Nebraska Library Commission.



Happenings Around the System

City Honors Librarians at Annual Recognition Dinner

Each Spring, the City of Scottsbluff hosts a dinner to honor employees and celebrate service and accomplishments. Lied Scottsbluff Library was thrilled to honor two special librarians: Jana Kehn, who celebrated fifteen years of service (and counting) with the City, and Jim Pauley, this year's recipient of the Excellence in Public Service Award. Jim makes the library a better place every day, and in doing so he improves our community. He always has our patrons' best interests at heart, respecting their privacy, anticipating their needs, and celebrating their successes. He improves our workplace and leaves a positive impact on everyone he encounters. LSPL is lucky to have these two wonderful employees, along with the other eleven staff members who are dedicated to public service.

Jana Kehn, Librarian Assistant, celebrated 15 years of service with Lied Scottsbluff Public Library. Congratulations!

Jim Pauley, Library Technician, received the Excellence in Public Service Award. Congratulations!



Article and photos provided by Noelle Thompson, LSPL Director

Summit Christian College achieves accreditation

Summit Christian College in Gering is now accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). College officials received the announcement while attending the 2019 ABHE Annual Meeting Feb. 20-22 in Orlando, Fla.

ABHE is a national faith-related accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Summit Christian College is now among 149 American colleges accredited by the association.

Summit Christian College President David Parrish said the accredited status will further advance the college's abilities to recruit students who are pursuing training and careers in ministry, missions, or leadership positions in church and para-church settings.



Photo: Students utilize the Summit Christian College Library, staffed by LaVern Allbaugh and Jill Ellis, with over 11,000 volumes, historical titles, fiction and non-fiction, periodicals,

Summit Christian College, is an institution of Christian higher learning that educates leaders for Christian service. The college's library, staffed by LaVern Allbaugh and Jill Ellis, currently contains over 11,000 volumes, including Christian and church research volumes, historical titles, fiction and non-fiction, periodicals, and audio/visual resources.

The college was founded in 1951 as Platte Valley Bible College in Scottsbluff, NE and now offers baccalaureate degrees in Christian Studies, Ministry Studies, Biblical Studies with an emphasis on languages, an associate degree in Biblical Studies and a Certificate in Christian Foundations.

Information provided by Kay Grote, Publications/IT Specialist
Summit Christian College

Happenings Around the System

WLS/CPLS Summer Reading Workshop was Out of this World!

Everyone enjoyed the WLS/CPLS joint Summer Reading Workshop which featured Jody Crocker, Director from McCook Public Library, as our expert space authority, along with her talented assistant, Tracy Kennedy. Denise Harders, Director of Central Plains Library System, and her assistant Autumn Carlson, went all out in planning this space extravaganza, and we all loved the Alien Teddy Bears. Sally Snyder from the Nebraska Library Commission took us on a fantastic voyage through the universe with all of the newest space and universe related books.



Elaine Bleisch, Alliance PL, with her elephant from Noah's Ark Animal Workshop.



Cheryl Hamilton, Broadwater PL, was the winner of the quilted wall hanging made by Kathy Terrell.



Jeri Clapper and Denise Harders show off a handmade space quilt donated by Kathy Terrell.



Nebula Jars were a huge hit Casie Campbell, Chadron PL, and other artistic library space crew.



Out-of-this-World Space Yoga kept our librarians alert!



Becky Henkel, Bayard PL, and Lori Leonard, Bridgeport PL, make foil space craters with coins.



Our fabulous alien leaders, Jody Crocker, McCook PL, and Denise Harders, Central Plains Library System.



Sarah Alfred, Morrill PL, takes a ride through space with her new Virtual Reality headset.



Jody Crocker, McCook PL, & Astronaut Extraordinaire, fueling up her jet-pack to blast off into a Universe of Stories for summer 2019.



Alien Storytime!



Moon Rocks!

A Universe of Stories™, Summer 2019.



Happenings Around the System

Kreutz Bennett Grants Awarded to Small-Town Public Libraries

Seven Nebraska public libraries recently received project funding, thanks to the generosity of a lifelong educator, the late Shirley Kreutz Bennett of Lincoln. Each year, the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund, an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF), accepts proposals for matching grants for public libraries in communities with populations under 3,000. For all the details, visit the NLC NCompass Blog at <http://nlcblogs.nebraska.gov/nlcblog/2019/03/28/kreutz-bennett-grants-awarded-small-town-public-libraries/>

Following Ms. Kreutz Bennett's wishes, a Fund Advisory Committee composed of her nieces and nephews recommends grants in three areas: planning for accreditation grants to support steps taken toward gaining accreditation; enhancement grants to improve library services; and facilities grants for new construction or the renovation, restoration, or rehabilitation of current libraries.

All grants require a one-to-one match in local funding and evidence that the project has broad community support. Approximately \$80,000 in grant funding is available each year. **Grant applications are currently being accepted for the 2020 grant cycle. The applications are simple to complete. A short-form proposal is due October 1, 2019, and a full proposal is due in January 2020.** Grant seekers are encouraged to review the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund guidelines and application procedures at <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/kreutz-bennett-donor-advised-fund/> For more information, contact Kristine Gale, affiliated fund development coordinator, 402.822.0466 or kgale@nebcommfound.org.

The following libraries received grants in 2019:

Axtell Public Library - This library is raising local funds to update its library which is located in the heart of downtown. Planned improvements include installation of more effective lighting and renovating the restrooms to be accessible to all library patrons. The Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund awarded a \$20,000 grant, contingent on the library's success in raising matching funds within one year.

Crawford Public Library - This newly accredited library received a grant of \$700 to continue its efforts in meeting the goals articulated in its Community Needs Response Plan. Activities include website updates, policy planning and summer programming.

Genoa Public Library - The committee has awarded grants over several years to enhance this library's services. This summer Genoa Public Library will launch a program that teaches computer coding to elementary students. Eight sessions will be offered, and the program will continue throughout the year to serve additional groups of students and adults. The Fund provided a grant of \$1,000 to help with implementation.

Lied Randolph Public Library - An improved public meeting space is the goal of this project. A grant of \$2,900 will match local funds for the purchase of new audio/visual equipment and chairs. In addition to community meetings, the new space will be used to present movies with quality sound and picture, allowing residents to "stay local."

Paxton Public Library - Flooding in the summer of 2018 caused extensive damage to this facility. As a result, the library was closed for several months, but continued to offer online services to patrons. A grant of \$10,000 will assist with interior and exterior repairs. Additional purchase of tables and chairs for preschool children are also planned. This project receives local support from the Keith County Foundation Fund, another affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation.

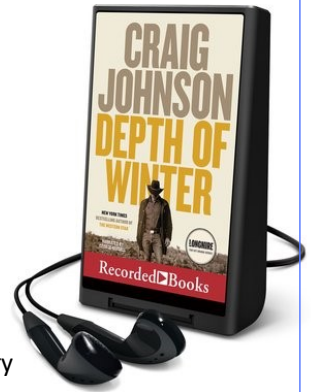
Sutton Memorial Library - The computers in this library are over 14 years old, and software programs are outdated and continue to fail as demand increases. The library's Community Needs Response Plan indicated citizens believed that updates were essential. Many library patrons do not have access to a computer in their homes. Providing free access to the Internet is a core requirement for Nebraska libraries. The Fund awarded a grant of \$6,767 for the purchase of seven computers and software.

Yutan Public Library - This library has set a goal to be accredited at the gold (highest) level, which will make it eligible for increased state funding. To do this the library needs to expand its collection by seven percent to be compatible with its peer libraries. A matching grant of \$1,000 will help purchase more materials and books.

Happenings Around the System

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library introduces Playaways

Lied Scottsbluff Public Library introduced a new format of books for patrons to enjoy: Playaways! The all-in-one audiobooks are easy to use with no smart device or CD layer required. Patrons just select their book, put on the headphones, and push play. Many of the children's books are packaged with a print book companion so children can read along while they listen. The library currently carries thirty-three items by popular authors like Dav Pilkey, Angie Thomas, and Craig Johnson. The Playaways were purchased from Playaway.com with funds donated by the Holyoke family and the Friends of the Library. Article provided by Noelle Thompson, Director, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



MakerHub Coming to Lied Scottsbluff Public Library



Lied Scottsbluff Public Library is thrilled to announce we are in the process of opening our makerspace. After the success of the Library Innovation Studio, hosted at LSPL from October 2018-February 2019, staff are meeting patrons' requests to make some of the equipment permanently available. The MakerHub will house a laser cutter, 3D printer, embroidery/sewing machine, vinyl cutter, heat press, and button maker. The Hub will open within the next few weeks and will be available to the public to use after they undergo training with staff and volunteers. Anyone interested in volunteering as a trainer should contact Noelle at LSPL, (308)630-6251. Article provided by Noelle Thompson, Director, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Books and Buddies: Coming Soon to LSPL By LSPL Children's Services



Books and Buddies is a new service coming soon to the Lied Scottsbluff Public Library Children's Collection. Patrons will have the opportunity to check out a clear backpack that follows a theme. The backpack contains a children's picture book, an animal buddy, and a folder with coloring/activity sheets and craft supplies.

Several of the animal buddies were crocheted and donated by LSPL patron, Penny Torske; other animal buddies are Beanie Babies, stuffed animals, and puppets. Our Books and Buddies backpacks will be located in the children's section on a white picket fence built by the Western Nebraska Community College Theatre Department.

The idea for the Books and Buddies service came from the McCook Public Library's Books with Friends service. Deb and I visited the McCook Public Library in January for the Summer Reading Program Library Conference.

Thanks to everyone who has made this program a reality for our library. We can't wait to offer this new children's service to our children and families!

Article provided by Mackenzie Watson, Library Assistant/Teen Librarian, Lied Scottsbluff Public Library

Happenings Around the System

A Huge Thank You For The Awesome (Previously Golden Sower Nominee) Books!!!



Broadwater Public Library kiddos enjoyed receiving donated books from **Karla Hawkins Wendelin**, from her personal library. Karla was one of the original creators of the **Golden Sower Awards**! This was a wonderful donation, and they will be cherished by the children at the Broadwater Public Library for many years!

Photo by Cheryl Hamilton, Director/Librarian at Broadwater Public Library

Information about the Golden Sowers Award

Initiated by Karla Hawkins Wendelin and Dee Storey at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the first Golden Sower Award presented in 1981 honored Deborah and James Howe for *Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery*.

The **Nebraska Library Association SCYP section** now sponsors the award. The award was expanded to honor a picture book in 1983 and a young adult title in 1993.

Three children's choice awards are presented annually:

Picture Book category: titles appropriate for grades kindergarten through 2

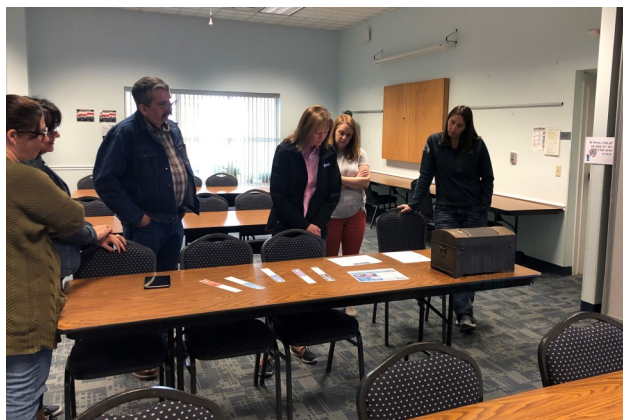
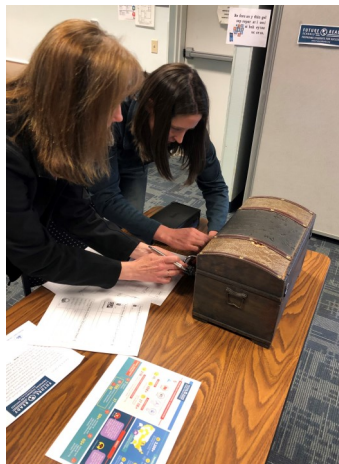
Chapter Book category: titles appropriate for grades 3 through 5

Golden Sower Novel category: titles appropriate for grades 6 through 8

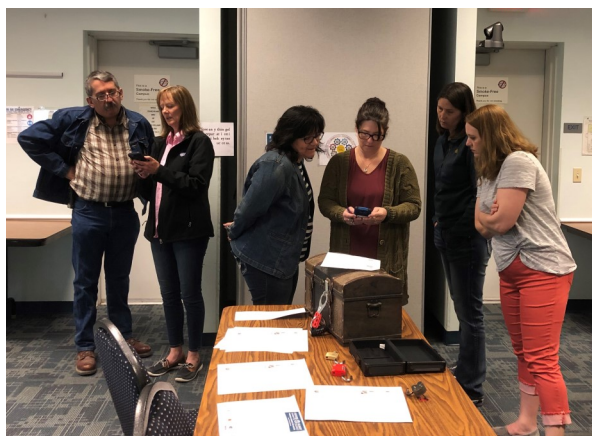
Thousands of Nebraska's students participate in the Golden Sower Award program each year as evidenced by the program's annual voting records.

For more information visit: <https://sites.google.com/site/nebraskagoldensower/home>

School Librarians Day 2019



School librarians collaborated to “break out” of School Librarians Day with the Breakout.Edu game, while Carol Matthews provided the necessary hints.



It was a very informative day as Carole Matthews discussed Open Education Resources (OER) and how it’s opening doors for equity and access to high quality instructional materials, and how the Creative Commons licensing allows OER materials to be reused, remixed, redistributed, revised, and retained. We also learned about the high-quality OER instructional materials, along with the Nebraska OER Commons Hub. Launched in the Spring of 2018, the Nebraska OER Commons Hub allows educators to create, share, and collaborate.

Check out the following information:

Link to the archive of NCompass Live:

NCompass Live: What is OER? Outstanding, Extraordinary Raw materials?

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgID=18288>

Open Educational Resources (OER): Resource Roundup

<https://www.edutopia.org/open-educational-resources-guide> <https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/nebraska>: OER Commons Nebraska

<https://www.oercommons.org/hubs/nebraska> Check out the School Librarians Groups and JOIN.



2019 Summer of Space



In the summer of 2019, 16,000 libraries across the country will celebrate space exploration in their summer reading programs. The slogan “**A Universe of Stories**” was chosen by library professionals to help inspire children of all ages to dream big, believe in themselves, and create their own story. The [Collaborative Summer Learning Program](#) and STAR Net are partnering to share [STEM resources](#) with these libraries.

This summer learning program will coincide with NASA’s [60 years of achievement](#) and its celebration of the [50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing](#).

This is a free program funded primarily by NASA’s Science Mission Directorate. All giveaways, resources, and activities are available at no cost.

In order to participate, your library must be a public library within the United States and register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/universe-of-stories-registration>

The *2019 Summer of Space* campaign does not require a paid subscription. You will, however, receive one newsletter a month highlighting resources.

You can register multiple libraries and branches in your system *separately*, providing an email address and point of contact for each.

The benefits of registering are: Access to STAR Net’s webinar series, a chance to win everything from a telescope, tactile books, and Scholastic books to NASA Stickers and calendars. New and exciting activities that connect well with *A Universe of Stories* and blogs highlighting events and competitions around the U.S.

Be sure to visit <http://www.starnetlibraries.org/summer-of-space/> for more information and programming resources.

ALSO, SAVE THE DATE!

On Monday, **July 15th**, join us for a Live Webcast Event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Mission. This live webcast, brought to you by the American Museum of Natural History, will feature a guided recreation of the Apollo 11 voyage – the space-flight that landed the first two astronauts on the Moon.



Posted on [April 29, 2019](#) by [Mary Sauers](#), Nebraska Library Commission

PBS Books Launches A National Library Engagement Program

PBS Books recently announced its Library Engagement Program launch, sponsored by the Knight Foundation.

Read more about the plans for the Library Engagement Program at:

<http://www.pbs.org/book-view-now/blogs/news/2019/03/27/pbs-books-launches-a-national-library-engagement-program/>

If you are interested in signing up for the Library Engagement Program, please sign up here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9CxxzVDDr50q7rkHn5QCwfu3MJwLDtin9nRariZbDLGDIg/viewform>

After registration, you will receive additional information about the **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE's Chasing the Moon**, before July 8.



For questions, email hmontilla@pbsbooks.org.

Information provided 4/22/2019 by Heather-Marie Montilla, Library Bureau Chief, PBS Books

Out of this World Space Quilts!!! For Three Lucky Winners!!!

Space Quilt #1



Space Quilt #2



Space Quilt #3



Don't fall into a **Black Hole...** If you are offering the Summer Reading Program, Register **your** Library to Win!!! Then, Raffle the winning quilt off to your own **Summer Reading Winner!**

[Public Library Raffle Entry Form for.pdf](#)

Contact the WLS for details 308-632-1350 or



wlsasst@gmail.com

Upcoming Public Library Accreditation and Community Needs Workshops

Public Library Accreditation and Community Needs Workshops have been scheduled in locations across the state and online.

What is Nebraska Public Library Accreditation? What are the benefits of accreditation? How does my library become accredited? What's a Community Needs Response Plan? Why does my library need one?

The purpose of Nebraska Public Library Accreditation is to encourage excellent library service in Nebraska communities. The guidelines used to evaluate libraries and their services are community-based, so libraries need to know their communities' needs in order to provide appropriate library services that meet those unique needs. That's where Community Needs Response Planning comes in!

In this workshop, Christa Porter, NLC's Library Development Director, will guide you through Community Needs Response Planning and applying for Public Library Accreditation. Public Library Directors, Staff, and Library Board Members are encouraged to attend.

Dates and locations:

May 13 – Wayne

May 28 – David City

May 22 – Scottsbluff

May 30 - Online, GoToWebinar

May 23 – Elwood

To register for any of these sessions, go to the Nebraska Library Commission's Training & Events Calendar and search for 'accreditation': <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/calendar/>

Information posted on April 2, 2019 by [Christa Porter](#), Nebraska Library Commission Director of Library Development

Western Library System Has Scholarship's Available

Click here for Scholarship Form:

<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/wls-scholarship-application/>

The Western Library System established a scholarship fund to facilitate the professional development of librarians within the system. Librarians, Media Specialists, and those connected with member agencies within the System may use these monies for attendance at professional meetings, classes, workshops, or other beneficial academic activities. Upon approval, funds will be dispersed after the Western Library System Board's next bi-monthly meeting.

Provisions of the Scholarship include:

- A. 1. Each applicant must submit an application letter and form any time prior to or two weeks after the event for which the scholarship is intended. 2. The Scholarship Committee will review each application received. 3. The Scholarship Committee has the right to adjust the amount requested depending on the budget and the number of applications received during the fiscal year, with a maximum request of \$200.00. 4. Scholarships evaluated on a first-come, first-serve basis. 5. Priority given to events within the state. 6. Individual applicants are limited to requesting scholarships once in a two-year period. 7. Scholarship recipients will provide a brief article in the System Newsletter as a form of resource sharing within one month of completion of the activity.
- B. Submit articles to the WLS office.

Scholarship Committee · Western Library System · 615 South Beltline Highway West · Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Grant: Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund

Grant applications are currently being accepted for the 2020 grant cycle. The applications are simple to complete. A short-form proposal is due October 1, 2019, and a full proposal is due in January 2020. Grant seekers are encouraged to review the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund guidelines and application procedures at <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/kreutz-bennett-donor-advised-fund/> For more information, contact Kristine Gale, affiliated fund development coordinator, 402.822.0466 or kgale@nebcommfound.org.



About Nebraska Community Foundation

Nebraska Community Foundation unleashes abundant assets, inspires charitable giving and connects ambitious people to build stronger communities and a Greater Nebraska. Headquartered in Lincoln, the Foundation serves communities, donors and organizations by providing financial management, strategic development, education and training to a statewide network of 1,500 volunteers serving 257 communities.

In the last five years, 41,776 contributions have been made to Nebraska Community Foundation and its affiliated funds. Over the past 25 years, Nebraska Community Foundation has re-invested \$323 million in Nebraska's people and places. For information, visit: NebraskaHometown.org.

Information posted on [March 28, 2019](#) by [Christa Porter](#), Nebraska Library Commission Director of Library Development

Book Sales Around the WLS area!!!



Come One Come All... Find Your Treasures

[Hemingford Public Library](#) will be having a book sale at the Library.

[May 18th](#), 7:00am -3:00pm, in conjunction with Hemingford's City Wide Yard Sales.

All Hardcovers priced at \$1.00! Paperbacks for \$0.50!



[Morrill Public Library](#) is having a book sale at the Library!

NOW until they are all gone... Come visit soon before they have vanished.



2019 Golden Sower Awards



Picture Book

Winner: *Madeline Finn and the Library Dog* by Lisa Papp

Honor: *I Am Not A Chair* by Ross Burach

Anything But Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Hermann, Queen of Magic by Mara Rockliff, illus. by Iacopo Bruno

Chapter Book

Winner: *Maxi's Secrets (Or, What You Can Learn From a Dog)* by Lynn Plourde

Honor: *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown

Wish by Barbara O'Connor

GS Novel Winner

Winner: *Scythe* by Neil Shusterman

Honor: *Projekt 1065: A Novel of World War II* by Alan Gatz

The Girl I Used To Be by April Henry

Thank you to all of the 69,062 students who read the Golden Sower Award nominees this year and voted for their favorite book. And also a big THANK YOU to all of the teachers, media specialists and librarians promoted the books in their schools and libraries. You help make the program a success!

<https://sites.google.com/site/nebraskagoldensower/home> accessed 5/1/2019, Kathy Schultz, Chair, Golden Sower Award Committee

Scholarships Available to Attend the 2019 ARSL Annual Conference

The Association for Rural & Small Libraries is now accepting applications for scholarships to attend the 2019 ARSL Annual Conference to be held in Burlington, Vermont on September 4-7, 2019.

Criteria for these scholarships has changed slightly so be sure to read and apply for the one(s) that fit you!

These scholarships are for first time attendees so anyone who has NOT previously attended an ARSL conference is invited to apply. **Applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm Central Time on May 24, 2019 to be considered.**

Visit the ARSL Scholarship webpage at <https://arsl.info/2019-conference-news/arsl-scholarships/> for more information and the scholarship applications. If you have any questions about the process or have any trouble with the application forms, please contact scholarship@arsl.info

Information posted on [April 4, 2019](#) by [Christa Porter](#), Nebraska Library Commission Director of Library Development

Makey Makey



[Makey Makey](#) The Western Library System has an Invention Kit for beginners and experts for art, engineering, and many other projects for budding innovators. Check this out for your library today! If you have any questions, please contact the WLS office.



Contact the WLS office:

wlsasst@gmail.com

Cover One Book Repair



The Western Library System has a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. Take advantage of this useful service to save your valuable books and avoid the cost of replacements. Only .50¢ per book.

Go to <http://www.coverone.net/>

Bring your books into the WLS office to make your own repairs! Call the WLS office for an appointment.

Disc Cleaning and Repair!



The Western Library System has a new ECO AUTOSMART Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019, each WLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings. If you have any questions, please call the WLS office.

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Western Library System
615 South Beltline Highway West
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Phone:
308-632-1350

Toll Free:
888-879-5303
Fax: 308-632-3978

Webpage:
<http://libraries.ne.gov/wls/>